

Phylloscopus fuscatus (Blyth) in Cyprus

by John P. Hubbard

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On 30th September, 1967, a Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus fuscatus* was captured in a mist net on the Akrotiri Peninsula, approximately 8 miles south-west of Limassol (Lemesos), Cyprus. The specimen (no. 533,491 at the United States National Museum) weighed 8.0 gms. and proved on dissection to be a male with no visible fat deposits. On the basis of its incompletely ossified skull it is immature, and it is in fresh plumage.

Normally this species is confined to Asia where it breeds east of the Urals and winters in the south-eastern part of the continent (Vaurie, 1959, *Birds of the Palearctic Fauna*). It has occurred as a vagrant as far west as Britain, however, where there are four accepted records (Harber *et al.* 1966, *British Birds*, 59: 295). These are all reports of single birds in the month of October, and all but one have been since 1960. The present specimen is the first from Cyprus and perhaps the only one from the Middle Eastern areas.

This specimen was taken in conjunction with a study of bird migration in Cyprus by the Smithsonian Institution in co-operation with the British Trust for Ornithology and the Cyprus Ornithological Society, the contributions of which are most appreciated.

Little Crake Porzana parva (Scopoli) breeding in north-eastern Greece

Neither the *Handbook of British Birds* nor the *Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe* includes Greece within the breeding range of the Little Crake. During a month's visit in the spring of 1968 four days were spent at Lake Koroneia, near Thessalonica, Macedonia, and Little Crakes were seen each day. On 24th April three birds were seen and a male was trapped the following day. One bird was seen on 8th May and on the 9th a female was flushed from a nest containing five eggs. Lack of time prevented more than about half of the suitable habitat being covered.

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